

**LEBANON BOARD OF EDUCATION
LEBANON MIDDLE SCHOOL LIBRARY MEDIA CENTER
June 9, 2015, REGULAR SESSION – 7:30 P.M.
MINUTES**

ATTENDANCE:

PRESENT:	Albert Vertefeuille, Chairman	Lori Jahoda
	James Mello, Vice Chairman	Jason Nowosad
	Sandra Tremblay, Secretary	Bert Bosse
	Keith Wentworth	Stephen Nelson
	Donna Skaats	Amanda Minicucci, Student Representative

ALSO PRESENT: Superintendent of Schools Janet Tyler, James Apicelli, LMHS, Principal, Ann Birell, Assistant Principal, LMHS, Robert Laskarzewski, LMS Principal, Andrew Gonzalez, LES Principal, Anne Axton-Jones, Director of Curriculum, Cheryl Biekert, Director Pupil Services, Don Neel, Business Manager, Kevin French, Facilities Director

I. CALL TO ORDER

Albert Vertefeuille called the meeting to order at 7:32 PM and led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. CELEBRATION OF EXCELLENCE

Superintendent Tyler noted that there are three staff members retiring in June. Shelia Russolino, school psychologist and Jan Free, science teacher will be retiring from the Middle School. Principal Laskarzewski spoke of their accomplishments over their careers at Lebanon. Principal Apicelli reported that Renee Gibson, art teacher will be retiring from Lyman Memorial High School. He spoke of her career. Superintendent Tyler reported that plants will be delivered to the retirees as they could not attend the meeting tonight. Amanda Minicucci, student representative was presented with a floral bouquet. Amanda will be attending U-Conn in the fall and will be studying Ecology and Biology. All were thanked by the Board for their service to the district.

III. COMMUNICATION

Two letters of resignation have been received, one from Anne Axton-Jones, Director of Curriculum, and the other from Rebekah Ricciutti, Spanish teacher as noted by Superintendent Tyler. Jason Nowosad also noted that Superintendent Tyler will be retiring and has put in a lot of work with the Board and with students over her term from 2010 – 2015. Sandra Tremblay noted that a retirement reception had been held for the superintendent and she was presented with a plaque for her years of service.

IV. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – BYLAWS OF THE BOARD #9300

Public participation – 30 minutes; Individual speaker – 2 minutes

Theresa Gonzalez, mother of Elijah Gonzalez, addressed the Board regarding alleged unprofessional conduct of a teacher. Mrs. Gonzalez read the State Statue regarding unprofessional conduct

V. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Approval of minutes

Motion by Bert Bosse and seconded by Lori Jahoda to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

VI. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

1. Finance/Budget Subcommittee – have not met
2. Communications Subcommittee – have not met
3. Curriculum Subcommittee – have not met
4. Transportation/Residency Subcommittee – have not met.
5. Goals/Strategic Planning Subcommittee – Jason Nowosad said they have recruited some members for this subcommittee, will be meeting with principals for other names.
6. Negotiations Subcommittee – no report
7. Board Policy Subcommittee – no report
8. Physical Plant/Facilities Subcommittee – James Mello reported they had met tonight and reviewed the potential bonding projects. Kevin French distributed the list to the Board. Number 1 – 5 are the priorities. Mr. French will be getting cost estimates. December – January will go forward to the Town. Jason Nowosad noted the time frame may be earlier than that. Lori Jahoda questioned what a make-up air unit is. Kevin French explained what this is. Asbestos abatement was discussed. Classroom floors have not been done.
9. Superintendent's Evaluation Subcommittee – no report

VII. ADMINISTRATORS' REPORTS/STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE'S REPORT

Principal Gonzalez reported that a Flag Day ceremony will be held at the elementary school on Monday June 15th, at 9:00 a.m. Board members were invited.

Principal Apicelli distributed the FFA program that was held. Pat Hogg received a special certificate for completing 40,000 extra practice math problems.

Anne Axton-Jones noted that the district exceeded the NWEA's Measures of Academic Progress in math by 13% and reading by 10%. It was noted that Mrs. Kathleen Smith had a 90% rate in her class.

Amanda Minicucci reported that the Senior Banquet was held on May 21, band and chorus performed at the Memorial Day parade. On May 27th Department Awards and Senior Project Medals were awarded. The FFA banquet was held on May 28th. May 29th was the Elementary School VIP day. Field Day at the high school was May 29th. June 3rd the fall play was double casted. On June 5th Chorus and Contemp Pops held a concert. On June 12th Professor Lyman will be held. Girls' softballs had an exciting first round in the State Championships, but were knocked out in the second round. National Honor Society members performed over 1,600 hours of community service this year at hospitals, Special Olympics, Town Library, Historical Society, Lebanon Leos, Neighbors Helping Neighbors and blood drives. Yearbooks have been distributed.

VIII. REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT

1. Enrollment – Superintendent Tyler reported it has been stagnant.
2. 2014 – 2015 Budget – Don Neel reported that we are in a good place in the budget. We will not exceed our appropriation. Chartwells will show a deficit of approximately \$25,000.00 this year. There was a freezer that needing replacing at the beginning of the year, and the products in the freezer needed to be replenished. There was no insurance claim as there is a deductible and there was no way to determine the date when the freezer went down. Also, there is

approximately \$20,000 worth of food in the freezers and shelves currently. This will have to be made up from the Board budget. Don has been meeting with Chartwells every week. Health insurance enrollment is down due to people dropping the plan. Jim Mello asked how much was taken from the Board of Education budget due to the audit. Jason Nowosad reported that the Board of Finance did not recommend that a special Town Meeting be called to return \$41,689.00 that the auditor had recommended be removed from this year's budget as was requested by the Board of Education. Stephen Nelson asked the question if this was legal in the first place. Al said a response from the attorney for the Board is expected this week. Don Neel stated we are operating as though we have the full amount of our budget to use as was voted on by the citizens. Jason noted that the Board of Finance has been warned that the Board will be over budget by approximately \$41,000.00.

IX. ACTION ITEMS

Motion by Keith Wentworth and seconded by Jason Nowosad to suspend the rules and add item 3 to Action Items – accept resignations of Anne Axton-Jones and Rebekah Ricciutti. Motion passed unanimously.

1. Approve leave of absence request
Motion by Jason Nowosad and seconded by Keith Wentworth to approve the leave of absence requested by Meg Rackliffe. Motion passed unanimously.
2. Approve non-affiliated pay raises
Motion by Jason Nowosad and seconded by James Mello to approve the non-affiliated pay raises. It was noted that town employees and most unions in the district have received a 2% raise. A chart with current and 2% raise was distributed. Vote: 7 Yes, 1 No Keith Wentworth Motion passes.
3. Accept resignations
Motion by Keith Wentworth made a motion and seconded by Lori Jahoda to accept the resignation of Anne Axton-Jones, the Director of Curriculum and Rebekah Ricciutti, Spanish teacher with regret. Motion passed unanimously.

X. NEW BUSINESS FOR NEXT AGENDA

- Plan a retreat
- Response from attorney regarding request of Special Town Meeting
A special meeting will be held for this item if necessary.
- Hiring status
Superintendent Tyler will give a status of new hires at the end of June. There are some candidates that are waiting for their certificates. He topic will be added to the July agenda.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Jason Nowosad and seconded by Keith Wentworth to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Submitted by,

Kathleen E. Chapman

Board Clerk